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2. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards in accordance with Claim 1, further comprising a configuration of said location, quantity and suit indication such that a first playing card of said deck of game playing cards may be placed either on a playing game board or some other location adjacent to a second playing card of said deck of game playing cards, such that a combination of said first and second playing cards is similar to a playing card in a standard deck of playing cards, but approximating twice the size of said playing card in said standard deck of playing cards.

3. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said indication of location is an indication of either bottom or top, such that when said first playing card is placed adjacent to said second playing card said combination will consist of the playing card containing the top location indication on top of the playing card containing the bottom location indication.

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12. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards comprising approximately 104 playing cards, each card having a front side of the card and a back side of the card, said back side either containing a design or not containing a design, such that each of the approximately 104 cards contains a back side which is similar to each of the other approximately 104 cards, such that said approximately 104 cards cannot be distinguished by observing the back side of the card, said front side of each card containing an indication of quantity and suit, such that a first playing card of said approximately 104 cards may be placed either on a playing game board or some other location adjacent to a second playing card of said approximately 104 playing cards, such that a combination of said first and second playing cards creates a combination that is similar to a standard playing card, and is similar to a playing card in said standard deck of playing cards, but approximating twice the size of said playing card in said standard deck of playing cards.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed October 19, 2001, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-19 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown. The Examiner also rejected Claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown.

Further, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 10 and 12 as having an insufficient antecedent basis, and the Examiner objected to Claim 10 as not being in proper dependent form. Applicants have canceled Claim 18 and amended independent Claims 1 and 12, and dependent Claims 2 and 3, and believe that the remaining claims are in condition for allowance.

Brown discloses a deck of cards containing 52 cards, each one depicting one quarter of the picture of an animal, a common letter of the alphabet, a common numeral, and an individual card suit symbol. When four cards are correctly placed together a picture of an animal is formed. Brown does not teach or suggest a deck of playing cards containing an indication of location on the card. The Examiner's has incorrectly attempted to equate the quarter-picture of the animal 11 with the indication of location in the present invention. Further, Brown does not disclose playing cards that, when placed in combination with another card, creates a combination that is similar to a standard playing card; instead the combination of four cards creates a picture of an animal.

The present invention is a deck of playing cards made up of approximately 104 cards, divided into four different suit types, containing 26 cards in each suit numbered either 2 through 10, or containing the letters A, K, Q, or J. In order to account for the 26 different cards in each suit, there are two of each card (containing the same number or quantity, and same suit). Each of the cards has an indication of location such that the two similar cards have different indication of location, i.e., one for the top card portion and one for the bottom card portion. This allows for a distinction of the same numbered and suit cards. The top and bottom card portions are configured such that, when the corresponding top and bottom cards are placed adjacent to each other, a single card is created similar to those found in a standard deck of cards, however the newly created card is approximately twice the size of the standard card.

Claims 1, 2, 3 and 12 have been amended to clarify the claims of the present invention. None of the art cited by the Examiner discloses, teaches or suggests a deck of playing cards containing an indication of location as disclosed in the present invention. Further, none of the prior art contains playing cards that when combined result in a card similar to a standard playing card as disclosed in the present invention. As described above, Brown has a quarter-picture of an animal, not an indication of location, and further, Brown does not disclose two playing cards that, when placed together, create a combination that is similar to a standard playing card. Thus, pending Claims 1-17 and 19 are neither anticipated nor made obvious by any of the cited art

either alone or in combination with other art. Thus, claims 1-17 and 19 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have herein canceled Claims 18 without prejudice, have amended Claims 1, 2, 3 and 12, and traversed all of the Examiner's rejections and objections. Applicants' amendments to claims 1, 2 and 12 further clarify the present invention and obviate the Examiner's Section 112 rejections, and further obviates the Examiner's "improper dependent form" objection. Claims 1-17 and 19 are now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests a notice of allowance pertaining to the remaining claims.

Finally, Claims 1-19 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,149,155 (which is owned by the applicants/owners of the present application). A terminal disclaimer will be submitted to overcome the double patenting rejection upon an indication of allowability of the pending claims.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the present amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

If, for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the Application and feels that a telephone conference would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (312) 673-0360.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

Please cancel claim 18 without prejudice. Please amend Claims 1, 2, 3 and 12 as follows:

1. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards comprising a number of playing cards, each card having a front side of the card and a back side of the card, said back side either containing a design or not containing a design, such that each of the [approximately 104] cards contains a back side which is similar to each of the other [approximately 104] cards, such that said [approximately 104] cards cannot be distinguished by observing the back side of the card, said front side of each card containing an indication of location, quantity and suit.
2. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards in accordance with Claim 1, further comprising a configuration of said location, quantity and suit indication such that a first playing card of said deck of game playing [approximately 104] cards may be placed either on a playing game board or some other location adjacent to a second playing card of said deck of game [approximately 104] playing cards, such that a combination of said first and second playing cards is similar to a playing card in a [said] standard deck of playing cards, but approximating twice the size of said playing card in said standard deck of playing cards.
3. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said indication of location is an indication of either bottom or top, such that when said first playing card is placed adjacent to said second playing card said combination will consist of the playing card containing the top location indication on top of the playing card containing the bottom location indication.

12. (Amended) A deck of game playing cards comprising approximately 104 [individual] playing cards, each card having a front side of the card and a back side of the card, said back side either containing a design or not containing a design, such that each of the approximately 104 cards contains a back side which is similar to each of the other approximately 104 cards, such that said approximately 104 cards cannot be distinguished by observing the back side of the card, said front side of each card containing an indication of quantity and suit, such that a first playing card of said approximately 104 cards may be placed either on a playing game board or some other location adjacent to a second playing card of said approximately 104 playing cards, such that a combination of said first and second playing cards creates a combination that is similar to a standard playing cards, and is similar to a playing card in said standard deck of playing cards, but approximating twice the size of said playing card in said standard deck of playing cards.